if any, to Coal India Limited at present.

National Power Grid

654. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have called for implementation of the concept for national grid in the power sector soon;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to include private Sector for its implementation; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) The Government of India have accepted in principle the need for a National Power Grid. Such a Grid is an evolutionary process requiring appropriate interconnections and strengthening of the various State Systems and the Central Sector EHV transmission lines. As a step towards formation of the National Grid, Regional Electricity Boards have been set up to accelerate the process of integrated operation of the regional systems. The Central Electricity Authority is carrying out studies in regard to the transmission system needed for the ultimate formation of the National Grid.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal at present to associate the Private Sector in the development of the National Power Grid.

New Drug Policy

655. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new drug policy has since been formulated by Government; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) if the answer to (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons for the delay and by when the policy is likely to be formulated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) The matter is still under the consideration of Government, as a number of important issues is involved.

Board to boost biogas programme

656. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Board or Commission to develop biogas programme in order to boost its production and use; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) Commission for Additional Sources of Energy (CASE) already exists which has taken policy decisions during last two years that have boosted the biogas programme and other non-conventional energy programmes. The CASE consists of Secretary, Department of Non-conventional Energy Sources as Chairman; Secretaries of Departments of Expenditure, Power, Science & Technology, Planning Commission; Director-General of India Council of Agricultural Research and Chairman, Khadi and Village Industries Commission.

Issue of letter of intent for cement plant in Tamil Nadu

657. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an application from the Government of

Tamil Nadu is pending with the Central Government for the issue of a letter of intent to establish a cement plant at Palayam in Anna District (formerly Madurai District); and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for delay in issuing the letter of intent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) In December, 1980, an application was received from M/s. Tamil Nadu Cement Corporation Ltd. for setting up a 4 lakh tonnes per annum cement plant in Varavanai-Palayam area of Tamil Nadu. The proposal could not be approved because of infrastructural constraints. The application was, therefore, finally rejected in October, 1981.

Wage policy for public sector undertakings

658. SHRI RAMKRISHNA MAZUMDER:
SHRI CHITA BASU:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised a wage policy for the public sector undertakings; and

(b) if so, what are the basic thrusts of the policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Bench of Supreme Court in Tamil Nadu

659. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Central Government to establish a Bench of the Supreme Court of India in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu has offered facilities for the establishment of the Supreme Court Bench in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) According to Article 130 of the Constitution, "the Supreme Court shall sit in Delhi or in such other place or places, as the Chief Justice of India may, with the approval of the President, from time to time, appoint."

No proposal has been received from the Chief Justice of India in this regard.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Reviewing the working of Courts

660. SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is an urgent need for reviewing the working of Courts both High Courts and District Courts in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the steps taken by Government other than the one taken by the Law Commission to improve the working of the courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Yes, Sir. The subject is under constant review.

(b) The Government is fully alive to the need of bringing improvement in the judicial system and it has taken a number of steps over the years such as amendment of C.P.C. and Cr. P.C., raising the